

as much—probably more from them than they do from me.

And so one time, one of the guys said, “How do you—how can you handle all this business, and what do you do?” And I said, “Well, one of the things, I like to exercise. I like to stay fit as part of a daily routine.” He said, “What do you do?” I said, “Well, I ride mountain bikes.” And Lou happened to be the captain of the Stanford mountain bike—regular bike time, but felt like he was strong enough to ride with a 59-year-old. [Laughter] And it turns out, he was strong enough to ride. [Laughter]

At any rate, it's been fun. He's a part of Peleton One, and—as was Lauren. I'm not going to tell them about the other bikers that didn't quite make it from your class, Lou—[laughter]—but I really enjoy it. I got a chance to see the caliber and the quality of the people who come to Washington, DC, to serve, and I am impressed by the program.

I guess what I'm telling you is, thanks for being a part of it; thanks for seeing to it that the program continues on. I appreciate you helping to find people to come to Washington, DC, to be a Fellow. I want to thank you for setting a good example for others in the community in which you live. And thank you for allowing me to come by and celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the White House Fellows.

Finally, may God bless you all, and may God bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:44 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Louis O'Neill and Lauren Zucker, White House Fellows 2004–05.

Remarks on the Resignation of the Vice President's Chief of Staff

I. Lewis Libby

October 28, 2005

Today I accepted the resignation of Scooter Libby. Scooter has worked tirelessly on behalf of the American people and sacrificed much in the service to this country. He served the Vice President and me through extraordinary times in our Nation's history.

Special Counsel Fitzgerald's investigation and ongoing legal proceedings are serious,

and now the proceedings—the process moves into a new phase. In our system, each individual is presumed innocent and entitled to due process and a fair trial.

While we're all saddened by today's news, we remain wholly focused on the many issues and opportunities facing this country. I've got a job to do and so do the people who work in the White House. We've got a job to protect the American people, and that's what we'll continue working hard to do.

I look forward to working with Congress on policies to keep this economy moving. And pretty soon, I'll be naming somebody to the Supreme Court.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:51 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Patrick J. Fitzgerald, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and Department of Justice CIA leak investigation Special Prosecutor.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

October 22

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Louisiana by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for Public Assistance projects undertaken as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Mississippi by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for Public Assistance projects undertaken as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

October 23

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.